UNITED NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/IC/1998/22
2 March 1998

INFORMATION CIRCULAR*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Conference and Support Services

Subject: FIRST DAY OF ISSUE: 1998 ENDANGERED SPECIES SERIES AND STATIONERY

Stamps

1. On 13 March 1998, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of 12 stamps depicting endangered species of fauna. These will be the sixth set of stamps in the UNPA multi-year series on endangered species, which was launched on 3 March 1993 to highlight the need for the protection of endangered species throughout the world. The issue will consist of three sheets of 16 stamps in denominations of 32 cents, 0,80 Swiss francs and 7 schillings. Each sheet will illustrate four different endangered species.

(United States equivalents - SwF 0,80: $0.56, and S 7: $0.57 - subject to exchange rate fluctuation)

Denomination: US$ 0.32

Endangered species:

Lesser galago
Hawaiian goose
Golden birdwing
Sun bear

Designer:

Pat Medearis-Altman
(New Zealand)

* Expiration date of the present information circular: 31 March 1998.

Denomination: SwF 0,80

Endangered species:

Short-tailed Tibetan macaque
Caribbean flamingo
Queen Alexandra's birdwing
Persian Fallow deer

Designer:

Suzanne Duranceau
(Canada)

Denomination: S 7

Endangered species:

Green turtle
Burrowing owl
Rajah Brooke's birdwing
Lesser panda

Designer:

Robert Hynes
(United States of America)

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Maximum cards

2. The sixteenth set of UNPA maximum cards will be issued on 13 March 1998. Three different cards will be produced to accommodate the three different se-tenant blocks of four stamps being issued. The appropriate se-tenant blocks of stamps will be affixed and cancelled first day of issue relevant to the respective office. The maximum card cancelled United Nations New York will sell for $1.58. The card cancelled United Nations Geneva is priced at $2.56, while the card cancelled United Nations Vienna is priced at $2.58, subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

1998 endangered species annual collection

3. On or about 13 March 1998, the United Nations Postal Administration will release the 1998 endangered species annual collection folder of single mint stamps.

4. The 1998 annual collection will be contained in a specially designed album. The album devotes separate pages to each of the 12 endangered species. Descriptive information is provided in English, French and German, and each stamp is beautifully highlighted by a colourful array of photographs relative to the species. It should be noted that the endangered species series will not be included in the annual collection albums to be issued later in 1998.

5. The stamps are not affixed inside the album, although spaces and mounts have been provided for this purpose.

Triple-cancelled endangered species annual collection folder

6. Since the 1998 endangered species annual collection folder will contain stamps in all three denominations, special arrangements have been made by UNPA to make available to its collectors the endangered species collections, in which the stamps will be affixed and cancelled 13 March 1998, the first day of issue in New York, Geneva and Vienna, as appropriate.

7. The policy of offering triple cancellations for the endangered species annual collection will continue for the duration of this series.

Stationery

8. UNPA will issue four new postal cards in denominations of $0.21, $0.50, SwF 0,70 and SwF 1,10 on 13 March 1998. A new S 13 pre-stamped envelope will be released on the same date.

9. The 21-cent postal card depicts five photographs by Unmesh (United Nations) of the grounds and gardens of United Nations Headquarters.

10. The 50-cent postal card has five photographs of the grounds and scenes of United Nations Headquarters taken by either Unmesh or John Isaac (United Nations).

11. The SwF 0,70 postal card presents a photographic representation by Fabrice Piraud (France) of the newly renovated Assembly Hall at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

12. The SwF 1,10 postal card depicts a view of the Palais des Nations and Armillary Sphere in Geneva.

13. On the left-hand side of the S 13 pre-stamped envelope is a photograph of a water scene by Franz Aberham (Austria). The imprinted stamp appearing on the upper right-hand side of the envelope is a photographic portrayal by Georg Popp (Austria) of a lake scene with deep green trees and a brilliant blue sky.

General information

14. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachet only. Stationery cancelled first day of issue will also be available. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain these items on Friday, 13 March, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) The counter at the north end of the Secretariat lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

15. First-day-of-issue cancellations can be obtained at the following temporary United States Postal Service substations:

(a) The counter outside the United Nations Bookstore in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) The counter along the west wall of the north end of the Secretariat North Lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

16. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.